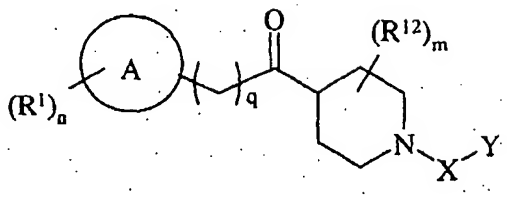
Claims

1. The use of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

Ring A is selected from carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl; wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^9;

$\mathbf{R^1}$ is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$sulphamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z-; wherein R^1 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^3; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^4;

n is 0-5; wherein the values of R^1 may be the same or different;

X is a direct bond, -C(O)-, -S(O)$_2$-, -C(O)NR^{11}-, -C(S)NR^{11}-, -C(O)O-, -C(=NR^{11})- or -CH_2-; wherein $\mathbf{R^{11}}$ is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, carbocyclyl and heterocyclyl;

Y is hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl, carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl; wherein Y may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R^2; wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^5;

$\mathbf{R^2}$ is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl,

N,N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl-*N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$sulphamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino, aminothiocarbonylthio, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminothiocarbonylthio, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$aminothiocarbonylthio, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z-; wherein R^2 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^6; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^7;

R^3 and **R^6** are independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl-*N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$sulphamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z-; wherein R^3 and R^6 may be independently optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R^8; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^{13};

R^4, **R^5**, **R^7** **R^9** and R^{13} are independently selected from C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$carbamoyl, benzyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, benzoyl and phenylsulphonyl;

R^8 is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethyl, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, acetyl, acetoxy, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylamino, acetylamino, *N*-methylcarbamoyl, *N*-ethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-diethylcarbamoyl, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylcarbamoyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulphinyl, ethylsulphinyl, mesyl, ethylsulphonyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, *N*-methylsulphamoyl, *N*-ethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-diethylsulphamoyl or *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylsulphamoyl;

Z is -S(O)$_a$-, -O-, -NR^{10}-, -C(O)-, -C(O)NR^{10}-, -NR^{10}C(O)-, -OC(O)NR^{10}- or -SO$_2$NR^{10}-; wherein a is 0 to 2; wherein **R^{10}** is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^{12} is hydroxy, methyl, ethyl or propyl;

m is 0 or 1;

q is 0 or 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the inhibition of 11βHSD1.

2. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 wherein Ring A is phenyl, 1,3-benzodioxolyl, thienyl, cyclopentyl, pyridyl, furyl, thiazolyl, 1,3-benzothiazolyl, benzofuryl or benzothienyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1-2 wherein R^1 is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, carbocyclyl and carbocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z-; wherein R^1 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^3; wherein

R^3 is selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-4}alkoxy, heterocyclyl and carbocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z-; and

Z is -S(O)$_a$- or -O-; wherein a is 0 to 2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1-3 wherein n is 0-3; wherein the values of R^1 may be the same or different; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1-4 X is -C(O)-; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1-5 wherein Y is hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl, carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl; wherein Y may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R^2; wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^5; wherein

R^2 is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, amino, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino,

N,N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl-*N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$aminothiocarbonylthio, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z-; wherein R^2 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^6;

R^6 is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonylamino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl and carbocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z-; wherein R^6 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R^8;

R^5 is selected from C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyl and C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl;

Z is -S(O)$_a$-, -O-, -NR^{10}-, -C(O)- or -OC(O)NR^{10}-; wherein a is 0 to 2; wherein R^{10} is selected from hydrogen; and

R^8 is selected from halo;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1-6 wherein R^{12} is 4-methyl, 4-ethyl, 4-propyl or 3-methyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1-7 wherein q is 0; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. The use of a compound of formula (I) as depicted in claim 1 wherein:

Ring A is phenyl, 1,3-benzodioxolyl, thienyl, cyclopentyl, pyridyl, furyl, thiazolyl, 1,3-benzothiazolyl, benzofuryl or benzothienyl;

R^1 is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, carbocyclyl and carbocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z-; wherein R^1 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^3; wherein

R^3 is selected from halo, hydroxy, C_{1-4}alkoxy, heterocyclyl and carbocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z-; and

Z is -S(O)$_a$- or -O-; wherein a is 0 to 2;

X is a direct bond, -C(O)-, -S(O)$_2$-, -C(O)NR^{11}-, -C(S)NR^{11}-, -C(O)O-, -C(=NR^{11})- or -CH$_2$-; wherein R^{11} is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, carbocyclyl and heterocyclyl;

Y is hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl, carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl; wherein Y may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R^2; wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^5; wherein

R^2 is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, amino, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl-*N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$aminothiocarbonylthio, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z-; wherein R^2 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^6;

R^6 is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonylamino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl and carbocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z-; wherein R^6 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R^8;

R^5 is selected from C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyl and C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl;

Z is -S(O)$_a$-, -O-, -NR^{10}-, -C(O)- or -OC(O)NR^{10}-; wherein a is 0 to 2; wherein R^{10} is selected from hydrogen; and

R^8 is selected from halo;

R^{12} is hydroxy, methyl, ethyl or propyl;

m is 0 or 1; and

q is 0 or 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the inhibition of 11βHSD1.

10. A compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1-9 selected from:

1-(3-fluoro-4-methoxybenzoyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(quinoline-3-ylcarbonyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(quinoline-2-ylcarbonyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(5-trifluoromethylfur-2-yl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(3-trifluoromethoxybenzoyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(tetrahydrofur-2-ylcarbonyl)-4-(4-chlorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(5-trifluoromethylfur-2-yl)-4-(4-chlorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(pyrid-2-ylcarbonyl)-4-(4-chlorobenzoyl)piperidine;

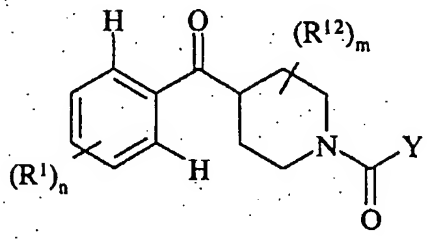
1-(thiazol-4-ylcarbonyl)-4-(4-chlorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(3,3,3-trifluoropropionyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine;

1-(4-fluorobenzoyl)-4-(3-mesylbenzoyl)piperidine;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. A compound of formula (Ig):



(Ig)

wherein:

R^1 is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_2$, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)sulphamoyl or *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$sulphamoyl; wherein R^1 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^3;

n is 0-3; wherein the values of R^1 may be the same or different;

Y is phenyl, pyrimidine, furan, thiophene or thiazole; wherein Y may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R^2;

R^2 is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl-*N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$sulphamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino, aminothiocarbonylthio, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminothiocarbonylthio or *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$aminothiocarbonylthio; wherein R^2 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^6;

R^3 and R^6 are independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl,

N,N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl-*N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$sulphamoyl or C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino; wherein R^3 and R^6 may be independently optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R^8;

R^8 is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethyl, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, acetyl, acetoxy, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylamino, acetylamino, *N*-methylcarbamoyl, *N*-ethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-diethylcarbamoyl, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylcarbamoyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulphinyl, ethylsulphinyl, mesyl, ethylsulphonyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, *N*-methylsulphamoyl, *N*-ethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-diethylsulphamoyl or *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylsulphamoyl;

Z is -S(O)$_a$-, -O-, -NR^{10}-, -C(O)-, -C(O)NR^{10}-, -NR^{10}C(O)-, -OC(O)NR^{10}- or -SO$_2$NR^{10}-; wherein **a** is 0 to 2; wherein R^{10} is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-4}alkyl;

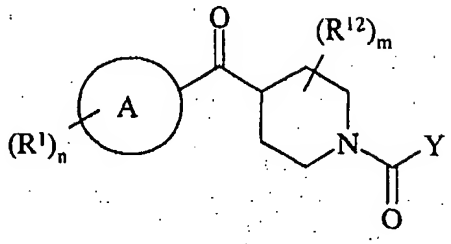
R^{12} is hydroxy, methyl, ethyl or propyl;

m is 0 or 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

with the proviso that said compound is not 1,4-dibenzoylpiperidine; 4-hydroxy-1,4-dibenzoylpiperidine; 1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzoyl)-1-benzoylpiperidine; 1,4-di-(4-methylbenzoyl)piperidine; 1-(4-chlorobenzoyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine; 1-(3-nitrobenzoyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine; 1-(2-methoxy-4,6-ditrifluoromethylbenzoyl)-4-(4-chlorobenzoyl)piperidine; 1-(2,6-difluorobenzoyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine; 1-(3-trifluoromethylbenzoyl)-4-(benzoyl)piperidine; 1-(4-aminobenzoyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine; 1-(2-chloro-4-nitrobenzoyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine; 1-(4-methoxybenzoyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine; 1-(4-*t*-butylbenzoyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine; 1-(2,4-dihydroxybenzoyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine; 1-(4-nitrobenzoyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine; 1-(pyrid-3-ylcarbonyl)-4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)piperidine; 1-(thien-2-ylcarbonyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine; 1-(thien-2-ylcarbonyl)-4-(4-methylbenzoyl)piperidine; or 1-(fur-2-ylcarbonyl)-4-benzoylpiperidine.

12. The use of a compound of formula (Ih):



(Ih)

wherein:

Ring A is selected from carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl; wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^9;

$\mathbf{R^1}$ is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$sulphamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z-; wherein R^1 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^3; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^4;

n is 0-5; wherein the values of R^1 may be the same or different;

Y is hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl, carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl; wherein Y may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R^2; wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^5;

$\mathbf{R^2}$ is a substituent on carbon and is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl-*N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)sulphamoyl,

N,N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$sulphamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino, aminothiocarbonylthio, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminothiocarbonylthio, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$aminothiocarbonylthio, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z-; wherein R^2 may be optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^6; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^7;

R^3 and R^6 are independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$amino, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylS(O)$_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl-*N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$sulphamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylamino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z- and heterocyclylC_{0-4}alkylene-Z-; wherein R^3 and R^6 may be independently optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R^8; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a group selected from R^{13};

R^4, R^5, R^7 R^9 and R^{13} are independently selected from C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, *N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_2$carbamoyl, benzyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, benzoyl and phenylsulphonyl;

R^8 is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethyl, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, acetyl, acetoxy, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylamino, acetylamino, *N*-methylcarbamoyl, *N*-ethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-diethylcarbamoyl, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylcarbamoyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulphinyl, ethylsulphinyl, mesyl, ethylsulphonyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, *N*-methylsulphamoyl, *N*-ethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-diethylsulphamoyl or *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylsulphamoyl;

Z is -S(O)$_a$-, -O-, -NR^{10}-, -C(O)-, -C(O)NR^{10}-, -NR^{10}C(O)-, -OC(O)NR^{10}- or -SO$_2$NR^{10}-; wherein a is 0 to 2; wherein R^{10} is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^{12} is hydroxy, methyl, ethyl or propyl;

m is 0 or 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the inhibition of 11βHSD1.

13. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of formula (I) or (Ig), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in claims 10 or 11, in association with a pharmaceutically-acceptable diluent or carrier.

14. A compound of the formula (I) or (Ig), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in claims 10 or 11, for use in a method of prophylactic or therapeutic treatment of a warm-blooded animal, such as man.

15. A compound of the formula (I) or (Ig), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in claims 10 or 11, for use as a medicament.

16. The use of a compound of the formula (I) or (Ig), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in claims 10 or 11, in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the production of an 11βHSD1 inhibitory effect in a warm-blooded animal, such as man.

17. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1-9, 12 and 16 wherein production of, or producing an, 11βHSD1 inhibitory effect refers to the treatment of metabolic syndrome.

18. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1-9, 12 and 16 wherein production of, or producing an, 11βHSD1 inhibitory effect refers to the treatment of diabetes, obesity, hyperlipidaemia, hyperglycaemia, hyperinsulinemia or hypertension, particularly diabetes and obesity.

19. The use as claimed in any one of claims 1-9, 12 and 16 wherein production of, or producing an, 11βHSD1 inhibitory effect refers to the treatment of glaucoma, osteoporosis, tuberculosis, dementia, cognitive disorders or depression.

20. A method of producing an 11βHSD1 inhibitory effect in a warm-blooded animal, such as man, in need of such treatment which comprises administering to said animal an effective amount of a compound of formula (I), as claimed in any one of claims 1-10, or a compound

of formula (Ig) as claimed in claim 11, or a compound of formula (Ih) as claimed in claim 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.